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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/878,498	06/11/2001	Jeffrey A. McKelvey	01SW102	3072

7590 03/08/2006
 Alexander M. Gerasimow
 Rockwell Automation (Allen-Bradley Co., Inc.)
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EXAMINER

PESIN, BORIS M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2174

DATE MAILED: 03/08/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/878,498	Applicant(s) MCKELVEY ET AL.	
	Examiner Boris Pesin	Art Unit 2174	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 December 2005.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1, 2, 4-15, 17-22, and 24-31 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 14, 15 and 17-20 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1, 2, 4-13, 21, 22, 24, 25, and 27-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 8 and 26 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 12/06/2005.

Claims 1, 2, 4-15, 17-22, and 24-31 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 14, 21, and 30 are independent claims. In the amendment filed 12/06/2005, Claims 1, 5, 6, 7, 13, 14, 21, and 30 were amended. This action is made Non-Final.

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 9, 21, 22, 24, 25, 27, and 30 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hammack et al. (US 6449624).

In regards to claim 1, Hammack teaches a graphical compare utility system for displaying control programs for industrial control modules (column 1, lines 36-50 and column 25, lines 8-12, *a graphical comparison user interface to compare instruction sets*), the system comprising: a conversion system that receives a first and a second control program and converts the first and second control program into a first and second data set representing individual instruction of the first and second control

Art Unit: 2174

program (column 21, lines 33-41, *i.e. – translation*); and a viewing system that accepts the first and second data sets and provides a graphical view of the first and second control programs in a single view based on the first and second binary data sets (column 24, lines 19-25); and a comparison module that determines the graphical view by maximizing individual instructions matches between the first and second control programs (Column 12, Lines 25-31 and Column 24, Lines 5-65).

Claim 21 is similar in scope to claim 1, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

In regards to claim 2, Hammack teaches all the limitations of claim 1. Hammack further teaches the graphical utility system providing indicators for insertions, deletions, modifications and moves of individual instructions between the first and the second control program (column 24, lines 35-52).

Claim 22 is similar in scope to claim 2, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

In regards to claim 5, Hammack teaches all the limitations of claim 1. Hammack further teaches a difference module that determines differences between the first and the second control programs and provides a difference data structure representing the differences between the first and second control program (column 21, lines 60-65, *data defining differences is stored*).

Claim 24 is similar in scope to claim 5, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

In regards to claim 6, Hammack teach all the limitations of claim 5. Hammack further teaches a comparison module receives the difference data structure and the first and second control programs and generates a plurality of comparison scenarios to provide a plurality of comparison set views (column 24, lines 5-18, *a plurality of views can be generated*, and column 25, lines 37-40).

Claim 25 is similar in scope to claim 6, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

In regards to claim 7, Hammack teaches all the limitations of claim 6. Hammack further teaches a decision model that determines an optimal display set view from the plurality of comparison set views (column 23, lines 57-60, *the optimal view is determined based on the graphical or textual nature of the comparison data*, and column 25, lines 37-40).

In regards to claim 9, Hammack teaches all the limitations of claim 7. Hammack further teaches the decision model transmitting the optimal display set view to a viewing component, the viewing component mapping the optimal display set view to graphic components associated with an operating system, such that the optimal display set view can be provided to a display system for providing a graphical representation of the first and second control program in a single view (column 24, lines 10-13).

Claim 27 is similar in scope to claim 9, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

As per independent claim 30, Hammack teaches a system for displaying graphical representations of two control programs for industrial control modules in an

Art Unit: 2174

adjacent configuration (column 1, lines 36-50 and column 25, lines 8-12, *a graphical comparison user interface to compare instruction sets*), the system comprising: means for converting the first and second control program into a first and second data set representing individual instructions of the first and second control program (column 21, lines 33-41, *i.e. – translation*); means for determining the differences between the first and second control program based on maximizing individual instruction matches between the first and second data sets (column 21, lines 60-65, *data defining differences is stored*); means for determining an optimal display set view based on the differences between the first and second control program (column 23, lines 57-60, *the optimal view is determined based on the graphical or textual nature of the comparison data*, and column 25, lines 37-40); and means for displaying the optimal display set view as a graphical view of the first and second control program, the means for displaying the optimal display set view providing indicators in the graphical view representing differences between the first and second control program (column 24, lines 10-13).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Art Unit: 2174

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hammack et al. (US 6449624) in view of Schultz et al. (US 5812133).

In regards to claim 4, Hammack teaches all the limitations of claim 1. Hammack does not teach the individual instruction being rungs of the first and second ladder logic programs. Schultz teaches the individual instruction being rungs of the first and second programs (column 16, lines 13-19). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Hammock and include individual instruction being rungs of the first and second programs, as taught by Schultz, with a motivation to provide an intuitive and simple way to analyze the operation of ladder logic control programs (columns 2-3, lines 65-3).

Claims 10, 12, 28 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hammack et al. ("Hammack," US 6449624) in view of Microsoft Notepad ("MS Notepad," pages 1-2).

As per claim 10, which is dependent on claim 1, the teachings of Hammack in regards to claim 1 have been discussed above. Hammock does not disclose a recursion tool to provide wrapping of the graphical view of the first and second ladder logic control program, such that instructions of the ladder logic control programs are wrapped in corresponding panes of a single frame window to avoid clipping of the instructions. MS Notepad teaches wrapping of information to avoid the clipping of information (figures 2-4). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Hammack with a means to wrap the control programs so as to avoid the clipping of instructions with the motivation to allow the viewer to see all information without needing to scroll the window.

Claims 28 and 31 are similar in scope to claim 10, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

As per claim 12, which is dependent on claim 10, MS Notepad teaches the recursion tool having an enabled state and a disabled state (figure 3, *enable or disable text wrapping*).

Claims 11 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hammack et al. ("Hammack," US 6449624) in view of Microsoft Notepad ("MS Notepad," Pages 1-2) further in view of Microsoft Word ("MS Word," pages 1-2).

As per claim 11, which is dependent on claim 10, the teachings of the combination of Hammack and MS Notepad in regards to claim 10 have been discussed above. The combination of Hammack and MS Notepad does not disclose that the

Art Unit: 2174

recursion tool is coupled to window resizing and zooming features of the graphical compare utility system, such that the graphical view of the first and second ladder logic control programs is dynamically adjusted when at least one of window resizing and zooming is invoked. MS Word teaches that the recursion tool being coupled to window resizing and zooming features of the graphical compare utility system, such that the graphical view of the first and second control programs is dynamically adjusted when at least one of window resizing and zooming is invoked (figures 2-4). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of the combination of Hammack and MS Notepad with a means to dynamically adjust window resizing and zooming, as taught by MS Word, with the motivation to provide the optimal view in relation to the viewable space of the display region.

Claim 29 is similar in scope to claim 11, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hammack et al. ("Hammack," US 6449624) in view of Microsoft Notepad ("MS Notepad," pages 1-2) and further in view of SnagIt Version 5.0 ("SnagIt," distributed by TechSmith Corporation, www.techsmith.com).

As per claim 13, which is dependent on claim 10, the teachings of the combination of Hammack and MS Notepad in regards to claim 10 have been discussed above. The combination of Hammack and MS Notepad does not disclose the recursion

Art Unit: 2174

tool provides a printout of the graphical view of all or a portion of the first and second ladder logic control program. SnagIt teaches a tool being operable to provide a printout of the graphical view of the first and second control program (page 1, §Capture Destinations, *any screen can be captured and sent to the printer for printing*). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of the combination of Hammack and MS Notepad with a means to print the graphical view of the control programs, as taught by SnagIt, with the motivation to allow the user to view, check, and save hard copies of the control programs.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 14, 15, and 17-20 are allowed.

In regards to the independent claim 14, the prior art does not teach a decision model that determines an optimal display set view from the plurality of comparison set views by maximizing individual instruction matches between the first and second control programs; in combination with all of the other claim limitations.

Claims 8, 26 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The prior art does not teach a decision model that determines an optimal display set view from the plurality of comparison set views

by maximizing individual instruction matches between the first and second control programs; in combination with all of the other claim limitations.

Response to Arguments

The Examiner points out that claims 8 and 26 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form **including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.**

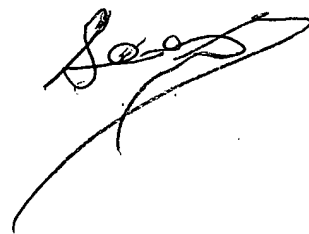
Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Boris Pesin whose telephone number is (571) 272-4070. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday except every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

BP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "S. J. [unclear]", located in the bottom right corner of the page.